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School, as Secretary-Treasurer. The Executive Committee consists of these Officers and the following persons: Maynard M. Hart, Vice-Principal of McKinley High School, and Rudolph Detschen, University City High School. The Program Committee consists of Principal Hart and Professor Eugene Tavenner, Washington University.

The organization of the Club is meeting with such a sympathetic response from friends of the Classics and the press that one is led to hope that the tide of anti-classical agitation is at last receding.

EUGENE TAVENNER.

ONCE MORE THE CLASSICS IN BRITISH EDUCATION

IN THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY 13.105-106 reference was made to a pamphlet entitled *The Classics in British Education*, published by the British Ministry of Reconstruction, as one of the series of pamphlets on reconstruction problems. To the courtesy of Professor Henry Browne, of University College, Dublin, I owe information of the fact that the British Board of Education has, by the authority of the Prime Minister, appointed a Committee "to inquire into the position to be assigned to the Classics, i. e. to the language, literature, and history of ancient Greece and Rome, in the educational system of the United Kingdom, and to advise as to the means by which the proper study of these subjects may be maintained and improved". The Board, in creating the Committee, has sought to gather classical experts representing the older and the modern Universities both, the Colleges for Women, and all grades of Schools in which classical education has had a part. The members of the Committee are as follows: The Most Hon. the Marquess of Crewe, Chairman; The Very Rev. Sir George Adam Smith, Aberdeen University; The Rev. C. A. Alington, Eton College; Mr. S. O. Andrew, Whitgift Grammar School; Miss M. D. Brock, Mary Datchelor School; Professor the Rev. Henry J. Browne, National University of Ireland; Professor John Burnet, St. Andrew's University; Mr. T. R. Glover, St. John's College, Cambridge; Sir Henry Hadow, Sheffield University; Miss K. Jex-Blake, Girton College, Cambridge; Professor W. P. Ker, University College, London; Mr. J. G. Legge, Director of Education, Liverpool; Mr. R. W. Livingstone, Corpus Christi College, Oxford; Mr. G. A. Macmillan, of Messrs. Macmillan and Company; Professor Gilbert Murray, Oxford University; Mr. Cyril Norwood, Marlborough College; Professor W. Rhys Roberts, Leeds University; Mr. C. E. Robinson, Winchester College; Professor A. N. Whitehead, Imperial College of Science and Technology; Mr. C. Cookson, Inspector of Schools, Secretary.

Professor Browne writes as follows:

"It is probable that the immense amount of evidence which is being prepared by and for the Committee will involve a somewhat lengthened sitting. Committees which were previously organized on somewhat similar lines to enquire into scientific education and the teaching of modern subjects took between one and two years to prepare their Reports. Their work was considered by the Board of Education to be valuable for the purposes of Reconstruction; and there appears no reason for apprehending that the Classical Committee will render less efficient service to the country. The result

will be awaited with attention by all who are interested in higher studies and in the spread of mental culture among modern and democratic communities".

C. K.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF TACITUS

IN THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY 13.87 Professor Mustard cites a passage from Matthew Arnold's *Balder Dead* as probably derived from Tacitus, *Germania* 12. The illustration affords a striking instance of the debt of English literature to the Classics. But it is not new: Professor Gudeman quoted the lines in his note on *Germania* 12.

There is an interesting bit of dialogue in Boswell's *Life of Johnson* (Everyman Edition 1.437), which, it seems to me, was certainly suggested by Tacitus, *Agricola* 12. In speaking of the long hours of daylight in Britain Tacitus says:

Dierum spatia ultra nostri orbis mensuram: nox clara et extrema Britanniae parte brevis, ut finem atque initium lucis exiguo discrimine internoscas. Quod si nubes non officiant, adspici per noctem, solis fulgorem, nec occidere et exurgere, sed transire adfirmat. Scilicet extrema et plana terrarum humili umbra non erigunt tenebras, infraque caelum et sidera nox cadit.

Dr. Johnson has just remarked: "Nobody will deny that the art of making candles, by which light is continued to us beyond the time that the sun gives us light is a valuable art, and ought to be preserved". *Boswell*. "But, Sir, would it not be better to follow nature; and go to bed and rise just as nature gives us light or withholds it?" *Johnson*. "No, Sir; for then we should have no kind of equality in the partition of our time between sleeping and waking. It—would be very different in different seasons and in different places. In some of the northern parts of Scotland how little light is there in the depth of winter!"

Then follows a paragraph mentioning Tacitus with, apparently, an abrupt change of subject. But the transition is perfectly natural, for the mention of Tacitus proves that he was in the writer's mind all the while. "We talked of Tacitus, and I hazarded an opinion, that with all his merit for penetration, shrewdness of judgment, and terseness of expression, he was too compact, too much broken into hints, as it were, and therefore too difficult to be understood. To my great satisfaction Dr. Johnson sanctioned this opinion. 'Tacitus, Sir, seems to me rather to have made notes for an historical work, than to have written a history'".

JOHN G. WINTER.

THE NEW YORK CLASSICAL CLUB

The Classical Forum

The second meeting of The Classical Forum of The New York Classical Club for the current year will be held on Saturday, March 13, at 10.30, in Students' Hall, Barnard College, Broadway and 117th Street New York City.

The subject is, What is Expected of Classical Teaching in New York High Schools. The discussion will be led by Dr. J. L. Tillsley, Associate Superintendent of Schools.

SUSAN FOWLER, Censor.